

Language matters. When we use recovery friendly language, we put the emphasis on a person, *NOT* their diagnosis, condition, or challenge. When using recovery friendly language, the person is placed *before* the condition.

Stigmatizing Language	Recovery Friendly Language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Rehab ❖ Drug problem ❖ Former addict ❖ Clean ❖ Dirty ❖ Drug habit ❖ Clean needles ❖ Dirty needles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Treatment ❖ Substance use disorder (SUD) ❖ Person who is in recovery ❖ Not actively using ❖ Actively using ❖ Substance use disorder (SUD) ❖ Sterile needles ❖ Used needles

Benefits of Using Recovery Friendly Language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Barriers are decreased when seeking access to care. ❖ Empowers the individual, fostering a sense of trust and belonging. ❖ Increases empathy and engagement towards people with SUD. ❖ Increases competency to manage SUD treatment. ❖ Prevents negative stereotyping. ❖ Upholds dignity and respect for all community members.

We all have a part to play fostering a region of healthy people, thriving communities.